

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An ink reservoir of an ink jet recording apparatus, the ink jet recording apparatus comprising: an ink jet head; the ink reservoir
5 attached to the head and containing an ink absorbing member which stores an ink supplied to the head; pressure reduction means, connected to the ink reservoir at a specific timing, for reducing an internal pressure of the reservoir; and an ink tank
10 containing the ink replenished into the ink reservoir by a pressure reduced state caused by the pressure reduction means connected to the ink reservoir at the specific timing, the ink jet recording apparatus discharging the ink from the ink jet head by a
15 specified amount and performing an ink filling operation after the ink is replenished into the ink reservoir using the pressure reduction means and the ink tank, the ink reservoir comprising:
an absorbing member arrangement area in which
20 the ink absorbing member is arranged; and
an absorbing member non-arrangement area that is a space in which the ink absorbing member is not arranged and that temporarily stores the ink, wherein
if an ink discharge amount that is the
25 specified amount by which the ink is discharged is V_1 ,
a volume of the absorbing member non-arrangement area

is V2, and a volume of the area in the ink reservoir which stores the ink right after the ink is supplied is V3, then the volumes V1, V2, and V3 fall within ranges of $V3 \leq 20V1$ and $0.7V1 \leq V2 \leq V1$.

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2. The ink reservoir according to claim 1, wherein

the ink reservoir is spatially divided into a coupling section of the pressure reduction means and the absorbing member arrangement area by a gas-liquid separation member, the gas-liquid separation member restricting filling of the ink into the ink reservoir.

3. An ink jet head structure comprising an ink reservoir of an ink jet recording apparatus, the ink jet recording apparatus comprising: an ink jet head; the ink reservoir attached to the head and containing an ink absorbing member which stores an ink supplied to the head; pressure reduction means, connected to the ink reservoir at a specific timing, for reducing an internal pressure of the reservoir; and an ink tank containing the ink replenished into the ink reservoir by a pressure reduced state caused by the pressure reduction means connected to the ink reservoir at the specific timing, the ink jet recording apparatus discharging the ink from the ink

jet head by a specified amount and performing an ink filling operation after the ink is replenished into the ink reservoir using the pressure reduction means and the ink tank, the ink jet head structure

5 comprising:

an absorbing member arrangement area in which the ink absorbing member of the ink reservoir is arranged; and

an absorbing member non-arrangement area that
10 is a space in which the ink absorbing member is not arranged and that temporarily stores the ink, wherein

if an ink discharge amount that is the specified amount by which the ink is discharged is V_1 , a volume of the absorbing member non-arrangement area
15 is V_2 , and a volume of the area in the ink reservoir which stores the ink right after the ink is supplied is V_3 , then the volumes V_1 , V_2 , and V_3 fall within ranges of $V_3 \leq 20V_1$ and $0.7V_1 \leq V_2 \leq V_1$.

20 4. The ink jet head structure according to claim 3,

the ink reservoir is spatially divided into a coupling section of the pressure reduction means and the absorbing member arrangement area by a gas-liquid
25 separation member, the gas-liquid separation member restricting filling of the ink into the ink reservoir.

5. An ink jet recording apparatus comprising:
a main tank storing an ink;
a negative pressure generator generating a
negative pressure; and

5 an ink jet recording head having an ink
discharge port for discharging the ink, the ink jet
recording head comprising a sub-tank storing the ink
supplied from the main tank, wherein
the sub-tank contains therein an ink absorbing
10 member impregnated with and holding the ink, and
comprises: a gas-liquid separation member arranged in
the sub-tank, and separating the ink stored in the
sub-tank from external air; an air hole for
discharging air in the sub-tank through the gas-
15 liquid separation member; an ink filled section
replenished with the ink,

the negative pressure generator is connected to
the air hole and discharges the air in the sub-tank,
whereby the ink is supplied from the main tank into
20 the sub-tank through the ink filled section and the
ink is discharged from the ink discharge port by a
specified amount right after the ink is supplied,

an area in the sub-tank which stores the ink
right after the ink is supplied includes an absorbing
25 member arrangement area in which the ink absorbing
member is arranged and an absorbing member non-

arrangement area that is a space in which the ink
absorbing member is not arranged and which
temporarily stores the ink, and

wherein if an ink discharge amount that is the
5 specified amount by which the ink is discharged is V_1 ,
a volume of the absorbing member non-arrangement area
is V_2 , and a volume of the area in the ink reservoir
which stores the ink right after the ink is supplied
is V_3 , then the volumes V_1 , V_2 , and V_3 fall within
10 ranges of $V_3 \leq 20V_1$ and $0.7V_1 \leq V_2 \leq V_1$.